



ESTIMATE PLACES MILLION PEOPLE ON FEDERAL PAYROLL

Figures Show One Out of Every Eleven Wage Earners
In Country Being Paid From Tax Money, Postage
Stamps and Fines

WASHINGTON, Feb. 4.—(U.P.)—The names of 1,023,373 full time workers are to be found on Uncle Sam's payroll. They receive an average annual wage of \$1,275, making the total Federal payroll \$1,315,690,476, according to a compilation just completed by the bureau of the budget.

This army of federal employes exceeds the population of any one of 15 of the 48 states in the union. It is greater than the combined population of New Mexico, Vermont, Nevada and Wyoming. Only four cities in the nation, New York, Chicago, Philadelphia and Los Angeles, have as many citizens as the government has employes.

An average of one out of every 119 persons in the United States work for the United States Government.

The government payroll is so large that it was not until last week, when the bureau of the budget completed its survey, that any agency of the government had more than the vaguest idea of how much Uncle Sam paid in salaries each year.

On June 30, 1931, the end of the last fiscal year, there were 29,172 more employes of Federal departments, bureaus and offices than on June 30, 1929, when the boom was at its peak.

Despite reductions in the size of the army, navy and marine corps, the number of names on Federal payrolls has increased every year since 1927. The number employed today is greater than at any time since the years of and immediately after the war.

The total departmental and office employment last June was 10 per cent greater than that of June, 1931.

The total of 1,023,373 government employes does not include hundreds of thousands of others who, indirectly, are paid with Federal funds. The great majority of those paid indirectly are contractors, who are at work on government projects. The number is variously estimated from half a million upwards.

A comparatively few of the government's employes work at its "home office," the District of Columbia. In its report on the employment in the executive civil service last June, the Civil Service Commission listed 71,693 men and women working in that district, compared to 515,141 outside. Moreover, this report did not include 55,224 regular Federal workers, the great majority of whom are outside of Washington.

If it is difficult to tabulate the Federal payroll, it is ten times more so even to estimate the total number of all government employes, including state, county and municipal and the amount of tax money they receive in wages each year. However, it has been done. In the January supplement of the National Municipal Review the editors estimate that in 1928 there were 2,683,596 full time government employes and 942,000 part time workers who received a total of \$3,895,649,000 for their services that year. Those figures include Federal, state, city and county employes.

All of which means, according to the editors' interpretation of their own estimate, that one out of every 11 wage earners was, at one time, or another in the course of the year, a public employe, being paid with the money he, and the other 10 were paying in taxes, postage stamps and fines.

Boy Scouts To Attend Services

Observing the 22nd anniversary of the founding of the Boy Scout movement in the United States, Troop 3 of the Torrance Boy Scouts will attend church services in a body next Sunday, February 7. The boys will go to the Christian church in the morning and to the Baptist church for the evening service. Rev. G. C. Elder and Rev. John H. Speed will include in their sermons remarks appropriate to the occasion regarding the importance of this phase of boy life.

Two Given Fines On Peace Charge

Victor Kolek and Walter Metupski were arrested on charges of disturbing the peace on complaint of Tony Michalek, the affair taking place early Sunday morning. Kolek placed guilty and was fined \$10 or 5 days in jail. Metupski entered a plea of not guilty but upon hearing the evidence Judge Dennis found him guilty and levied a fine of \$5 or 2 days in jail. Both fines were paid.

Emil Kettler Is Injured In Odd Accident

Son of Lomita Pioneer Has
Skull Fracture As Car
Knocks Him Down

Emil Kettler, member of a well-known family, owners of the Kettler ranch adjoining Torrance, is at the St. Joseph's hospital, Orange, suffering from a fractured skull. The injury resulted from a peculiar accident in which Mr. Kettler was knocked down as he was starting his car, to go with his wife and Mrs. Walter Thompson on a trip to Lake Arrowhead.

Reports from Mrs. Kettler yesterday were that her husband was making a good recovery, and that, although his injury was serious, it was believed he could return home in a few days.

Mr. Kettler is engaged in ranching near Huntington Beach. He is the son of Emil Kettler, pioneer settler of this district, who passed away a few days ago.

TWO TORRANCE MEN ON LIST OF CHAIRMEN

President Page of Harbor
Chambers of Commerce
Tells Appointments

W. Rufus Page, president of the Harbor District Chambers of Commerce, has just made public the list of committee chairmen appointed at an executive committee meeting held last week.

The appointments are as follows: Resolutions and public affairs, Frank L. Walton, of Compton; harbor affairs, Leslie Mott, San Pedro; highways, Ray O. Baldwin, Long Beach; airports, E. M. Mansur, Inglewood; public utilities, W. G. Partridge, Redondo Beach; sewers and sanitation, John Dennis, Torrance; flood control, Judge Austin, Compton; playgrounds, parks and beaches, Dr. C. W. Farmer, Inglewood; finance and taxation, Tommy Blair, Redondo Beach; zoning, A. E. Henning, San Pedro; historical, W. B. McQueen, Long Beach; transportation, C. A. Bland, Long Beach; publicity, George W. Smith, Riveria; industrial, Carl L. Hyde, Torrance.

The chairmen of these committees will meet at the Elks Club building in Compton, on Thursday, February 11, at 4 o'clock, to select the other members of their groups.

Of the 1,023,373 men and women who work for Uncle Sam, only 1,592 have been added by the creation of 11 of the most discussed independent commissions and similar bodies of recent birth. Their total pay is \$4,591,973, which is a considerable sum, but rather insignificant when compared to \$1,315,690,476.

Farm Board Workers
For instance, the Federal Farm Board employs less than half as many people as does the older Bureau of Home Economics of the Department of Agriculture in its field service.

And the total employes of the 11 bureaus under consideration is 300 less than the number of people the House of Representatives employs to serve it while it is serving the country.

The Federal Radio Commission employs 132 persons, and is heard of much. But the altho property custodian's office, a remnant of war days, still has 141 employes, or nine more than is required to administer the affairs of radio.

One hears from time to time that the government's board of mediation which settles or tries to settle labor disputes is a costly activity. Yet its 30 employes amount to only nine more than are still retained by the old War Finance Corporation and the Railroad Administration—bodies engaged in disentangling the government from its wartime business ventures. Few people realize they still exist.

When one sets to the veterans' administration, however, the picture changes considerably—how much it is difficult to tell. It was formed to take over administration of all forms of affairs affecting the well-being and the perquisites of those who have been service in the nation's armed forces. More than half of its activities are new. But before it was created the government was heavily involved, through several different bureaus, in the work with which the administration deals. Hence, it cannot by any means be entirely charged up as a new activity of the government. The magnitude of its work, however, is shown by its payroll figures. It employed last year 33,403 persons, which would be nearly half as many as the entire peace-time payroll.

LEGION AUX. WILL SPONSOR HOME TALENT

Sparkling Comedy of College
Life Includes Big Cast
of Local Thespians

"The College Flapper," a big three-act comedy of college life and college flappers, will be staged at the high school auditorium Thursday and Friday, February 13-19, under the sponsorship of the American Legion Auxiliary. This production is expected to be one of the outstanding community performances of the year and promises to be a hit from start to finish.

"The College Flapper" has been staged throughout the United States and Canada with unusual success and it is with great pride that the Auxiliary is able to announce the staging of same in this city.

"The College Flapper" is a story of college life and centers around a lead character, Jerry Watson, star football player, who is found in the sorority house making love to his girl when he should have been practicing for football. In order to get out of this mix-up he dresses in the housemother's clothes and from then on the fun begins. In this situation he is proposed to by various rich alumni of the school, including the Butter and Egg Man. It is a collegiate TURN TO STORY 1 Page 4

Stormbound Guests Held On Cruiser

Torrance Party Spends a
Night On Battleship Pre-
paring for Sea

For visitors to spend the night on board a battleship is an event unparalleled in the history of the navy, so it is said, and particularly is that event thrilling when the battleship is preparing to put out to sea for a long cruise the next morning. Such was the experience of a party of Torrance people Sunday night when they visited the U. S. S. Arizona as guests of E. L. Ott and W. G. Miller, members of the crew.

Mrs. E. L. Ott and daughter, Mary Jean, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. West and daughters, Leta and Alta, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. McMullen and daughter, Mildred, and Miss Ruth Colburn were the guests.

When the party was ready to return to shore a high sea was running. On the second attempt to board the small boat a wave knocked Miss Alta West down and almost carried her overboard. The officer in charge then ordered the gangplank raised and declined to permit the party to attempt the shoreward trip as the stormy conditions made the embarkation and the journey extremely hazardous.

Torrance visitors were then entertained on board, shown over the ship, and made very comfortable until morning when they were set ashore at San Pedro at 6:10, barely two hours before the fleet steamed out of the harbor en route to Hawaii.

Petition Ready For Repeal of Promotional Tax

J. M. Wright served notice to the city council Tuesday night that he would shortly present a petition to that body asking for the repeal of the ten-cent promotional and park fund. Wright stated that he already had 374 signatures to his petition and that as soon as he secured 500, the number required to place the proposition on the ballot, he would file it with the city council.

Figuroa Open In Three Years

Due to the action of Keystone property owners in consenting to deed land for the Figuroa street right-of-way, this highway will probably be completed within three years from Palmdale in the Mojave desert to the waterfront at Wilmington. The local section to be improved includes six miles from 190th street to the Wilmington-San Pedro road at Wilmington.

Speed Action On Sepulveda Proposition

Engineer Leonard Makes
Special Trip North For
Ellinwood Signature

With the county ready to start paving Sepulveda boulevard from the Redondo Beach city limits to Hawthorne boulevard as a cash job without assessments against property owners, and practically all property owners agreeing to donate a 100-foot right-of-way, the long-heralded Sepulveda boulevard appears soon to be a reality in Torrance.

In a letter to the Torrance city council Tuesday evening, Supervisor Quinn stressed the importance of securing right-of-way donations from adjoining property owners as soon as possible, as pressure from other communities for county funds was increasing, and unless Torrance got Sepulveda boulevard in shape so the county could proceed with the paving at an early date, Quinn expressed the fear that the money would all be gone.

Spurred by the supervisor's warning, City Engineer Frank Leonard left Monday night for San Francisco to secure the signature of Dr. L. M. Ellinwood, as it is understood that other owners of property fronting on the proposed boulevard are willing to donate the right-of-way if Dr. Ellinwood does.

PLANT TREES AT ALONDRA PARK TRACT

County Begins Work This
Week On Recreation
Project

Trees, trees, and more trees. Two thousand of them, in fact. Transformation from a level expanse unbroken by anything higher than a tumbleweed began this week when a gang of men from the county forestry department were put to work setting out acacias, sycamores, oak and aspen more trees on the east third of the 319-acre tract known as Alondra Park. This tract, which adjoins the city of Torrance at its northern boundary, lying between Riverside-Redondo boulevard, Center street, Cypress street and Prairie avenue, is now entering upon its long-delayed process of development as a community center.

Four county departments are TURN TO STORY 3 Page 2

State Law to Curb Spreaders of False Rumor

Samuel A. Willis, real estate broker of San Gabriel, was arrested this week on charges preferred by George C. Brooks, vice president and cashier of the First National Bank of Monterey Park, of circulating false reports regarding the condition of the bank. He was released on \$500 bail pending his hearing Friday afternoon before an Alhambra justice of the peace. The arrest of Willis is the third in Southern California recently for asserted violation of the state law which makes it a misdemeanor knowingly and falsely to circulate rumors that a financial institution is insolvent or to make other statements of a derogatory nature. Recently officials of the First National Bank of Vernon caused the arrest of two men said to have been spreading false reports regarding its financial condition.

New Movie Star Under Contract

Arthur James Maskrey, son of Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Maskrey, Jr., 1719 Martina avenue, has received a two-year contract from Universal Pictures, Inc. He will begin work on a new picture within the next three weeks. Arthur James is a brother of Eileen Maskrey, who has been broadcasting over KTM and KRCA for some time.

FOUR HUNDRED WOMEN VISIT PRES. COUNCIL

Torrance Woman's Club Is
Hostess to Large Gathering
of Federation Members

Presidents' Council, an event long planned and anticipated with pleasure by Torrance Woman's club was culminated Tuesday when the club acted as hostess to more than 400 club presidents, state officers, district officers and chairmen of the Los Angeles District Federation of Women's Clubs and their guests from surrounding cities in the southland.

The program was opened by unity singing led by Ann Meservey, district chairman of music, with Mrs. John R. Hunt at the piano. Mrs. Caroline Collins, hostess president, was then introduced and responded with a greeting to her guests. An open forum, conducted by Grace Y. Hudson, district vice president, then followed. She chose as her subject, "County Organization." Gordon Ellis, U. S. Department of Agriculture, followed with a discourse on "Forest Conservation—a Challenge to Women." Miss Wanda Stachowicz, accompanied at the piano by Kathryn E. Burdington, then sang "Knowest Thou the Land" from "Mignon," and "Morning" by Oley Speaks.

Mrs. Charles Van de Water of Long Beach made a motion to write President Hoover "To commend President Hoover's appointment of a woman as a member of the Disarmament Conference and to assure him of our support in bringing about peace between China and Japan; and that every means be sought, so far as is consistent with national honor, to keep our country from becoming embroiled in what may become another world war."

Luncheon was served at Torrance Woman's clubhouse on noon TURN TO STORY 2 Page 3

Tax Collections Are 16 1/2 Percent Better This Year

Figures Show Local Tax-
payers in Better Condition
Than Other Cities

Tax collections this year in the City of Torrance are 16 1/2 per cent better than the same time last year, reflecting a decided improvement in property owners' finances over last year.

Collections so far this year total \$90,116.99. The collections last year on the same date were only \$77,619.44, making a surplus of \$12,497.55 this year, or approximately 16 1/2 per cent increase, according to City Treasurer Harry H. Dolley.

Another factor that reflects the sound financial condition of Torrance taxpayers is the remarkably few trust deed and mortgage foreclosures as contrasted to the great numbers which were held in other Southern California communities. Hawthorne and Compton have each had many times as many foreclosures during the past year as Torrance has had despite the fact that this city has a much larger area than either Hawthorne or Compton.

Refinery Affairs To Be Aired In Justice Court

Gray M. Skidmore, T. H. Clements and E. J. Hancock were arraigned before Judge Dennis Saturday on a charge of obtaining property under false pretense and grand theft. C. W. Stine of Los Angeles preferred the charge. The proceeding has to do with the affairs of the Torrance Refinery, and the preliminary hearing in the matter will be held in the justice court at 1 o'clock Monday afternoon, February 5.

MAGNOLIA TREE IS GIVEN TO CITY PARK

A beautiful magnolia tree has been transplanted in the city's little triangular park at the junction of Cabrillo avenue and Plaza del Amo. The tree was a gift to the city by Mrs. Isabel Henderson,

Outline Steps to Get Out of Light District

South Torrance Property
Owners Face Long Road
of Technicalities

If residents of the newly annexed South Torrance district are to avoid paying assessments in the county lighting district, they have a long road of legal technicalities to follow. The procedure as outlined by City Attorney Findley Tuesday evening to the Torrance city council is as follows:

1. File a petition requesting withdrawal from the county light district with the county board of supervisors. This petition must be signed by the owners of not less than 25 per cent of the value of the property in the annexed territory.

2. The board of supervisors will then call a hearing for protests against the withdrawal.

3. After the hearing, if the supervisors deem advisable, they may call an election of all property owners in the entire lighting district to decide whether or not property owners in the annexed territory may or may not withdraw from the district.

Little opposition is expected from the balance of the district to the withdrawal of the newly annexed Torrance area, as the cost of operating the system is based on the number of lights. Proponents of the withdrawal movement state that their withdrawal from the district will not increase the cost to property owners remaining in the county lighting area but it will mean a substantial saving to property owners in the newly annexed Torrance portion.

CRAIL FIGHTS FOR OIL DUTY AND EMBARGO

Swing, Shortridge and Others
In Washington Battle To
Save Oil Industry

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 4.—Absolute embargo on the importation of foreign petroleum, limitation of the importation and a tariff on crude and refined petroleum products are among the measures contained in bills now before Congress as that body wrestles with the problem of restoring the oil industry to a semblance of prosperity.

Congressman Joe Crail of California, himself an oil producer, has a bill which would place an emergency embargo on petroleum importations for one year or until the president may lift it, or Congress levy a tariff duty on mineral oils.

Congressman Phillip Swing, also of California, has a bill to limit importation of petroleum to 15,000,000 barrels a year during 1931, 1932 and 1933. At present about 19,000,000 barrels a year are being imported duty free. Swing's bill does not provide for a tariff, according to Congressman Crail.

Congressman William W. Hastings of Oklahoma has a bill to place a tariff of \$1 a barrel on imported crude petroleum and 50 per cent ad valorem duty on petroleum products.

Congressman Milton C. Garber, also of Oklahoma, has a bill which is practically identical with that of Congressman Crail.

Eyster Supplies Cigar Smokers With Good Five-Center

"What this country needs is a good five-cent cigar," said one of the old-time statesmen. This wise expression made a deep impression on F. D. Eyster, 2635 E. Elgin street, Torrance, so much so that he has gone into the manufacture of just such an article. His product is a fine, mild, hand-made cigar, made of imported Key West tobacco, a smooth, satisfying smoke, according to the directors of the Chamber of Commerce to whom he presented a box of his Exemplars this week. The Torrance-made cigar is now on sale at local drug stores and may be identified by the name, "Exemplar," a picture of Abraham Lincoln and the above slogan on the box.

COUNCIL ACTS TO CUT WAGES OF CITY HELP

Effective This Month All
Salaries Will Be Reduced
20 Per Cent

Salaries of all appointive city officials and wage rates of all city workers will be reduced 20 per cent, effective February 15, according to action taken Tuesday evening by the Torrance city council. The order applies to all paid city employes, except the city treasurer and city clerk, who are elected and whose pay is set by law.

In offering the resolution to reduce municipal payroll, Councilman Nelson, chairman of the finance committee, stated that the action was in "keeping with the trend of the times." Councilman Steiner cast the only vote against the wage reduction. Steiner explained that he was not opposed to lowering wages, but that he had a plan whereby city employes could buy wood from the municipal yard and give it back to the city to be resold and the money used for the unemployed.

Other members of the city council did not consider the Steiner plan practical, however, and the straight 20 per cent wage cut was passed by a four to one vote.

Under the new wage schedule, workers in the city yard will be paid 40 cents an hour instead of 50 cents. Full time firemen will be given the 20 per cent wage cut, but volunteer members of the fire department will continue to receive one dollar for each practice drill and \$2.50 per call. Some time ago, practice fire drills were put on a fortnightly schedule instead of a weekly drill, one drilling one week and the other coming the next week. By this method considerable expense was saved in the fire department budget.

HARVEL MADE ROTARY CLUB SECRETARY

Harvel Guttenfelder, congenial Willard battery dealer in Torrance, was last week appointed secretary of the Torrance Rotary Club to replace Ed. C. Nelson, who resigned because of press of other duties as cashier of the First National Bank and city councilman.

Harvel, as the new secretary is almost universally called as his name is conducted under this name, has a record of 100 per cent attendance ever since the Torrance club was chartered. He has been an active member in all the club's activities, and local Rotarians are predicting that he will make a splendid secretary.

New Resident Praises City's Friendly Spirit

A. J. Beach, builder, formerly of Denver and later of Long Beach, Calif., has taken over the four-unit court at 1504 Madrid avenue where during the coming summer he expects to make some extensive improvements. Mr. Beach plans to build another unit in the front of the court, which will give him additional rentals and also enhance the attractive appearance of the place. "I came to Torrance to locate because I liked the clean, attractive looks of the city," said Mr. Beach, "and now that I am a resident I find that Torrance has something that is even more attractive, that is a friendly community spirit."

RAINFALL

Precipitation for Torrance, during the storm beginning Saturday to Tuesday morning at 5 o'clock, was 1.58 inches. For the period beginning at 4:30 Monday to 8 o'clock Tuesday morning, .26 inches. Total for the season to date, 11.26 inches. Last year's total to the same date, 3.13 inches. For Lomita, as registered at Sarbonne high school, the total for the Saturday to Tuesday storm was 2 inches. Total for the season to date, 12.30 inches; total to same date last year, 4.09 inches.